

**OLNEY RURAL FIRE DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
SEPTEMBER 10, 2018 AT OLNEY FIRE HALL**

**Call to Order:** 7:00 pm

Trustees present: Chair Donna Maddux, Secretary Paul Jeremiassen, Keith Kastner and Norma McBroom. Vice Chair Laurel Therrien was absent.

Department Members: Chief Wayne Rehmert and EMT Kim Gress

Community Members: None

**Motion to approve Minutes of the August meeting** made by Kastner; seconded by McBroom; carried unanimously.

**Secretary's Report**

Bills presented for payment – attached here to and highlighted. The NorthWest Electrical invoice for the electrical work in the Fire Hall was slightly over their estimate. The fuel purchasing procedure at the Olney Store appears to be working efficiently. Jeremiassen called Norco and confirmed that no additional charges for oxygen tank rental would be incurred after June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Motion to approve payment of bills as presented made by Kastner; seconded by McBroom; carried unanimously

**Reports and Information Items**

Chief's Report:

Chief Rehmert presented his monthly report, which is attached hereto. Regarding the insurance claim on the ambulance damage, Rehmert presented a check for \$12,945 received from VHIS to cover the claim. This amount is apparently based on the estimate prepared by the insurance adjuster net of the \$500 deductible. As we have yet to have a body shop estimate, the actual cost is unknown at this point. As of September, both Levi Gress and Jordan Carr become active members of the Department. McBroom reported that she had found a source for pager replacement batteries at \$22 each. It was requested that she determine quantities needed and to organize an order. She also said that there is a possible source of used pagers/radios, which might be donated. Jeremiassen asked Chief Rehmert to provide statistics in the future on calls and responses so we have a picture of activity over time. The Department needs a more formal log of activity to make this easier. Jeremiassen offered to help create the log.

Stillwater Lake Boat Launch Area: After further investigation of the situation, Maddux advises that the Department not take responsibility for responding to incidents on Lower Stillwater Lake, given our resources and preparedness for water rescues. The Department can assist landside to support any incidents on the water.

A separate discussion ensued concerning the issue of the gate enclosures recently erected by a private landowner on the crossroad between Good Creek Rd and Star Meadow Rd (located towards the Star Meadow Rd end). These locked gates create an access issue if the Department responds to incidents in the Star Meadow Rd or the crossroad area. The closures are already being contested by others. The issues for the Department are whether we should ask for a key to the gates (Maddux will follow up about this), and what is the best route to access the area on the Star Meadows side (i.e., Good Creek Rd/the crossroad, or US 93/Farm-to-Market Rd/Star Meadows Rd).

**Unfinished Business**

Community Newsletter - Feedback on the last Community newsletter was generally positive. There was some concern voiced about the lack of volunteers to perform the Department's mission.

Fire Prevention Season/Halloween recognition and Insurance Claim – covered in Chief's report and discussion.

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**New Business**

Annual Insurance Renewal – Jeremiassen presented the renewal of the VFIS Accident & Sickness policy, effective October 1st. The policy is the same as last year with a 6% increase in the premium. The premium will be paid in October. The renewal date of the State Fund Workers' Compensation policy was supposed to be aligned with the VFIS policy, but that did not happen, so it will renew on November 1<sup>st</sup>.

The premium for the State Fund policy is dependent on the census of covered personnel, so the deposit premium paid is adjusted at the end of the policy year. We will need a count by month of the number of Department members covered to calculate this adjustment. We should include cadets in this coverage count, since they play an active role in incident responses.

The VFIS policy coverage is for any volunteer (including District Trustees) in connection with their participation in any activities of the Department/District. The premium is not based on a specific census of volunteers. Jeremiassen said that Chris Hindoien, our insurance agent, has committed to attend our October meeting, so he should be put on the agenda for that meeting.

As there were no other comments, Kastner moved to **adjourn the meeting** at 8:15 pm; seconded by McBroom; carried unanimously.

Submitted by Paul Jeremiassen, Secretary

**Attachments:**

Bills Presented for Payment

Chief's Report

**OLNEY FIRE DISTRICT  
TRANSACTION REGISTER  
FY 2018**

As of 9/16/18

CLRD	CHECK #	DATE	PAID TO/RECEIVED FROM	DEBIT	CREDIT	A/C CODE	CASH BAL	DESCRIPTION
		<b>7/1/18</b>	<b>BEGINNING CASH</b>				33,958.04	<b>Ties to County balance - no outstanding warrants</b>
X	5119	7/9/18	VFIS	1,429.00		<b>1200</b>	32,529.04	Quarterly premium - property/liability insurance
X	5120	7/9/18	CenturyLink	111.94		<b>200</b>	32,417.10	June telephone/internet
X	5121	7/9/18	Lincoln Electric	118.08		<b>800</b>	32,299.02	June electricity
X	5122	7/9/18	Les Schwab	105.00		<b>2000</b>	32,194.02	Change to summer tires on First Responder & Ambulance
X	5123	7/9/18	Norco	42.16		<b>900</b>	32,151.86	Oxygen tank rental
X	5124	7/9/18	US Bank Lockbox CM9695	7,067.50		<b>2100</b>	25,084.36	Semi-annual loan paymnet - MT INTERCAP Water Tender loan
X	DEPOSIT	7/19/18	Samill Scramble Event		100.00	<b>50</b>	25,184.36	Donation for providing standby EMS support
X	5125	7/27/18	Whitefish Army-Navy	815.97		<b>1900</b>	24,368.39	3 pairs wild land boots
X	RECEIPT	7/31/18	Flathead County		470.88	<b>60</b>	24,839.27	Collected property taxes
X	DEPOSIT	8/8/18	Flathead County		50.64	<b>40</b>	24,889.91	Interest on deposited funds
X	5126	8/13/18	CenturyLink	111.85		<b>200</b>	24,778.06	July telephone/internet
X	5127	8/13/18	Lincoln Electric	115.20		<b>800</b>	24,662.86	July electricity
X	5128	8/13/18	Norco	40.80		<b>900</b>	24,622.06	Oxygen tank rental
X	DEPOSIT	8/31/18	Flathead County		1,460.16	<b>60</b>	26,082.22	Collected property taxes
	5129	9/10/18	Lincoln Electric	90.54		<b>800</b>	25,991.68	August electricity
	5130	9/10/18	CenturyLink	111.85		<b>200</b>	25,879.83	August telephone/internet
	5131	9/10/18	NorthWest Electrical	2,076.82		<b>100</b>	23,803.01	Fire Hall plug circuits; refeed to air compressor
	5132	9/10/18	Olney Store	179.30		<b>500</b>	23,623.71	August Fuel
	5133	9/10/18	Paul Jeremiassen	30.08		<b>1500</b>	23,593.63	Postage for community mailing
	5133	9/10/18	Paul Jeremiassen	17.00		<b>1400</b>	23,576.63	Copies for community mailing

## **CHIEF'S MONTHLY REPORT 9-10-18 TRUSTEE MEETING**

### Call outs for August

- 8-1 Fire at old gravel pit – no response
- 8-3 Grass fire mile marker 154 – Whitefish took it
- 8-6 MVA Martin Camp Rd – no response
- 8-7 MVA Old Church Rd – Jordan, Levi, Norma, Jeremy
- 8-9 Illegal burn Martin Camp Rd – Wayne, Norma, Jordan, Levi
- 8-12 Fire investigation Whitefish MT – Wayne and Jeremy
- 8-16 MVA vehicle vs. bear – no injuries

After this our radios and pagers stopped working. I called Lincoln Chute; he got us back on line. Not sure what he did, but it worked.

### Old Business

1. Insurance claim – I am taking the ambulance to OHS in Whitefish this week to get estimate on repairs. I left 2 messages with Don K and have not gotten a call back. I sent pictures to Kyle Nace (RES) and I am waiting to hear back.
2. Fire prevention/Halloween – Because it is such short notice, I have decided to wait until next year to do anything. Would like to set up funds in the budget next year.
3. My finger injury – I met with another doctor and they are going to let it heal on its own for at least a year. For now they just want me to focus on getting movement back in the rest of my finger.

### New business

1. I will be unavailable the week of September 17<sup>th</sup>. I am taking my oldest daughter to hunter education class.
2. We have at least one person interested in joining the Department, so I need to get all radios back from Bruce and Brent. If anyone can contact the Helnores, that would be great.

### Training for September

- 17<sup>th</sup> – Do what you feel you need to. I will not be at this meeting.
- 24<sup>th</sup> – EMT night; basic first aid

### Current Members

Wayne Rehmert, Jeremy Goodin, Norma McBroom, Rocky Gress, Jordan Carr (cadet), Levi Gress (cadet), and Kim Gress (EMT)

Wayne Rehmert, Chief